

U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

November 28, 2006

MR. WILLIAM J. MAXWELL
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
608 SOUTH WRIGHT STREET
URBANA, IL 61801

Subject: PATTERTON, LOUISE THOMPSON

FOIPA No. 1059924- 001

Dear Requester:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552	Section 552a
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(3) <u>RULE 6(e) FEDERAL</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C)
<u>RULES OF CRIMINAL</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D)
<u>PROCEDURE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E)
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(4)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8)
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	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5)
	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6)
	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7)

921 preprocessed pages are enclosed. To expedite requests, preprocessed packages are released the same way they were originally processed. Documents or information originating with other Government agencies were not referred to those agencies as part of this release.

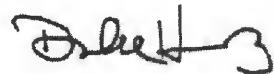
You have the right to appeal any denials. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request that it may be easily identified.

The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience is, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a

separate request for them in writing and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit,

- See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,



David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT Louise Membon Patterson
FILE NUMBER 100-440-407934
SECTION NUMBER 1



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute(A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

February 17, 1941

M E M O R A N D U M

Re: Louise Thompson

Information from an unknown outside source dated at New York, New York, February 1, 1941, indicates that Louise Thompson, a vice president of the International Workers Order, one of the leading Communist setups in America, was present at a secret meeting of "Red" leaders which was raided, at which time Louise Thompson left a small handbag filled with various material relative to the Communist Party, among which was a list of names, apparently the personal property of Louise Thompson. It might be mentioned that Louise Thompson is a negress and that the International Workers Order is one of the wealthiest Communist setups in the country, as they have a financial reserve of almost two million dollars. It is stated that Louise Thompson is a well educated negress, has acted as organizer for the Communist Party in many sections of the United States, and spent several months in England and almost a year in Russia. It is stated that it is not known what the following list represents; that there are many names of individuals on it who are prominent in this country and who have visited other countries during the past few years. The following is a copy of the list:

Grace Lumpkin
639 E. 11th St.
New York City

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
New York City, N. Y.

[REDACTED]
Delcombre, La.

c/o International Publishers Freeman, Va.
381 - 4 Ave., New York City

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

Austin, Tex.

[REDACTED]
Dalark, Ark.

[REDACTED]
JACKSONVILLE, Fla.

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100-407934-1
100-39-5X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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MEMORANDUM

- 2 -

[REDACTED]
Denver, Colo.

[REDACTED]
Sioux City, Iowa

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
McWilliams, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Fairhope, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Bronx, N. Y.

[REDACTED]
Abernant, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Bklyn, N. Y.

[REDACTED]
Opelipa, Ala.

[REDACTED]
-Bklyn, N.Y.

[REDACTED]
Orrville, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Arkapurga, Ga.

[REDACTED]
Uyola, Tenn.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
Ashland, Mont.

[REDACTED]
Orville, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
N. Y. City, N. Y.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
Tucson, Ariz.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
Jarratt, Va.

[REDACTED]
Gadsden, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
Ft. Worth, Tex.

[REDACTED]
Lameit, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
Fairhope, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Waverly, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Jacksonville, Fla.

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MEMORANDUM

- 3 -

[REDACTED]	Eva D. Jones Ashby, Minnesota	[REDACTED]
Greensboro, Ala.		Jacksonville, Fla.
[REDACTED]		
Cleveland, Ohio	W. Palm Beach, Fla.	Jacksonville, Fla.
Savannah Journal 509 $\frac{1}{2}$ W. Broad St. Savannah, Ga.	[REDACTED]	Oxford, Mass.
[REDACTED]		Jacksonville, Fla.
New York City	Orrville, Ala.	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Laneet, Ala.	Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland, Ohio	[REDACTED]	
Huntington, Tenn.	Orrville, Ala.	[REDACTED] Jenison, Tex.
[REDACTED]	Laneet, Ala.	[REDACTED] Jacksonville, Fla.
Houston, Tex.	Marton, Miss.	Jacksonville, Fla.
[REDACTED]	Jacksonville, Fla.	Jacksonville, Fla.
Bronx, N. Y.		
N.Y. City, N.Y.	Jacksonville, Fla.	Jacksonville, Fla.
[REDACTED]	Jacksonville, Fla.	[REDACTED] Jacksonville, Fla.
Bklyn, N. Y.		

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MEMORANDUM

- 4 -

[REDACTED]
Darlington, S. C.

[REDACTED]
Meruel, Miss.

[REDACTED]
Geneva, N. Y.

[REDACTED]
University Sta.
Austin, Tex.

[REDACTED]
Brooksville, Fla.

[REDACTED]
New York City

[REDACTED]
Denison, Tex.

[REDACTED]
KNOXVILLE, Texxn.

[REDACTED]
Carthage, Mo.

[REDACTED]
Denver, Colo.

[REDACTED]
Moorecroft, Wyo.

[REDACTED]
Ellington, Mo.

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Jenpton
Lanpton Hughes
Box 1582
Carmel, Cal.

[REDACTED]
Rysham, Montana

[REDACTED]
Veblen, S. Dakota

[REDACTED]
Urbana, Ill.

[REDACTED]
Criptal Springs, Miss.

[REDACTED]
Ashland, Mont.

[REDACTED]
Champaign, Ill.

[REDACTED]
Collinsville, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Dozier, Ala.

[REDACTED]
Washington, D. C.

[REDACTED]
New York City

c/o

[REDACTED]
New York City

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[REDACTED]
Oxford, Mass.

[REDACTED]
Paterson, N. J.

c/o

[REDACTED]
New York City

[REDACTED]
Oxford, Miss.

[REDACTED]
Toms Creek, Va.

[REDACTED]
Elbow Lake, Minn.

[REDACTED]
Oxford, Miss.

[REDACTED]
Crystal Springs, Miss.

MEMORANDUM

- 5 -

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Chicago, Ill.	Niagara Falls, N.Y.	Kilmichael, Miss.
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Ovid, Fla.
Miami, Fla.	New York City	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Provincial, La.
New York City	N. Y. City	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Croton-on-Hudson New York	Brooklyn, N.Y.
[REDACTED]	Jackson Heights, N.Y.	b7C
[REDACTED]	New York City	
[REDACTED]	Harry I. Cohen P. O. Box 2823 Denver, Colo.	
[REDACTED]	Blythaville, Ark.	
[REDACTED]	Meridian, Miss.	
[REDACTED]	Atlanta, Ga.	
[REDACTED]	Norton, Va.	
[REDACTED]	Dallas, Tex.	
Centesville, Ala.		

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

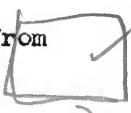
Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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FILE NO. 100-4092

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 9/24/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/25/41 9/3/41/5/41	REPORT MADE BY AED:MAM
TITLE MRS. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, with aliases Mrs. Louise Patterson, Mrs. Louise Thurman, Louise Thompson, nee Louise Tolls		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <i>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/2/00 BY SPK/SPK</i> Born September 9, 1901, at Chicago, Illinois. Residence Vincennes Hotel, Chicago. Member Central Committee of Communist Party of America. Member National Council American Peace Mobilization. National Vice-President International Workers Order. President, Midwest District Committee, International Workers Order. Member Midwest Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Participated May Day Demonstration May 1, 1941. Member Committee of Peoples Conference for Legislative Action. Married WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, prominent Communist associated with numerous front organizations and left wing publications. No credit record or criminal record, Chicago. Listed for custodial detention.			
C.			
DETAILS: b2 b7D <u>AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS</u>			
<p>This investigation is predicated upon a memorandum dated July 2, 1941, which was received by this Office from Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity has been made known to the Bureau. This memorandum related in substance that Subject came to the Chicago Communist Party Headquarters on June 12, 1941, and turned over to [redacted] of the Communist Party, an important list of 201 new members of the International Workers Order enrolled since May 15, 1941, increasing the evidence of apparent</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>A.H. Johnson</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>see</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <i>100-3918 100-407934 SEP 20 1963 FIVE</i>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - Chicago 1 - Chicago file 100-1		RECORDED <i>100-3918 100-407934 SEP 20 1963 FIVE</i>	
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complete domination of the IWO by the Communist Party in this area. Subject was National Secretary of the IWO in 1940.

There was also affixed to Chicago file 100-4092, a page from an article entitled "Cast to Coast with Louise Thompson" dated November, 1938, from the New Order, 85th Avenue, New York City. 

During the course of a recent investigation of WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Chicago file 100-1, the writer had occasion to review his marriage affidavit dated December 3, 1940, which was on file in the Bureau of Vital Statistics for the purpose of obtaining birth data pertaining to this individual. The Bureau records reflected that MR. PATTERSON obtained a license to marry a MRS. LOUISE THURMAN. As the necessary birth data was not available, Agent later interviewed PATTERSON under pretext and he, in addition to supplying the birth data concerning himself, verified he married a MRS. LOUISE THURMAN, a widow.

A review of a memorandum from Confidential Informant [] in file 100-1, reflected that MR. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON married LOUISE THOMPSON. The source of this information has later been determined as an article which appeared in the Daily Worker on September 29, 1940, which article contained a picture of MR. PATTERSON and his new bride, LOUISE THOMPSON. b7C

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A review of the International Workers Order file, 61-174-163, Special Agent [] of the Chicago Office on July 17, 1941, reported: 

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"On May 10, 1941, Informant [] was able to ascertain that LOUISE THOMPSON, who is a high official of the IWO in this territory resides at the Vincennes Hotel, 601 East 36th Street, Chicago.

"On May 10, 1941, she was quite pleased to receive a letter from MR. PATTERSON in New York City, who congratulated her on the fine work she was doing in Chicago and said he hoped to be in Chicago in a few days to discuss the Negro situation."

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In a later report, dated August 19, 1941, serial 173 of the same file, Agent [] reported:

"Confidential Informant [] stated that LOUISE THOMPSON was referred to as MRS. PATTERSON, further strengthen-

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his belief that she is now married to WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, National Vice-President of the ILD, long well known as a Communist in this area, Executive of the Board of the Communist Party, and long official of the National Negro Congress. Informant stated that he believed they resided at the Vincennes Hotel."

Agent recently recontacted MR. PATTERSON by telephone at his apartment in the Vincennes Hotel, recalling to his mind the recent conversation between the Agent and himself and advised him that since the Bureau of Vital Statistics had changed its location, it was necessary to review the various marriage records on file and to bring them up to date. Agent in the course of this interview described himself as [redacted] This telephonic conversation took place on September 3, 1941.

MR. PATTERSON advised that MRS. PATTERSON was born in Chicago, that she was formerly MRS. LOUISE THURMAN, and that her maiden name was LOUISE TOLLS. Agent advised him that inasmuch as he was well known at the Election Board, information was on hand to the effect that he was married to LOUISE THOMPSON, to which question MR. PATTERSON responded that the information was correct, that LOUISE TOLLS always used the name of her stepfather. He stated that his name was THOMPSON and that is how his wife came to be known as LOUISE THOMPSON.

It is to be noted that although MR. PATTERSON made out an affidavit for a marriage license and received said license, no record of the actual marriage is on file at the Bureau of Vital Statistics. The marriage affidavit Certificate No. 1652548, reflected that MRS. LOUISE THURMAN was born September 9, 1901, and described her as a widow. Her place of birth was not indicated, but this information was obtained through MR. PATTERSON in the course of the interview.

The Chicago files were reviewed for further information concerning the background of LOUISE THOMPSON. A review of the International Labor Defense file, Chicago file 100-1519, described that Special Agent [redacted] in a report dated July 17, 1941, (serial 19) mentioned the Subject as a high official in the IWO of Chicago. It reflected that Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, submitted information to the effect that [redacted] is the [redacted] for the State of Illinois, and was in conference

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[redacted]
with a fellow named [redacted] whom he believed is connected with the union. On May 21, 1941, he stated that [redacted] indicated he was friendly with LOUISE THOMPSON and [redacted] advised "that he had worked together with LOUISE THOMPSON in the same organization in Mexico in [redacted]

[redacted] In a report dated August 27, 1940, by Special Agent [redacted] of Chicago, Chicago file 100-125-121, entitled Communist Party Activities, Chicago, Illinois Area, it is reflected that from information submitted to Chicago by Confidential Informant [redacted] that as of June 3, 1938, the Subject was a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U. S. America. It describes her as a Negress and a former teacher in the YWCA in New York City.

Chicago file 100-2659, serial 5, is a report by Special Agent [redacted] dated at Chicago, July 25, 1941, entitled, Illinois Peoples Conference for Legislative Action; Trade Union Committee for Emergency Legislative Action. Agent [redacted] advises that Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, submitted the proceedings of the Peoples Conference held at Springfield, Illinois, May 24, and 25, 1941. It was reported by the Informant that prior to the conference negro delegates attempted to register at the Hotel Abraham Lincoln and was refused rooms on the lack of accomodations. Informant [redacted] advised that the proposal was made at the conference that the delegates picket the Hotel Abraham Lincoln. Informant stated that in fact, it was a planned program as the Negro delegates had no intentions of registering at the Hotel. He related that the Conference Arrangements Committee had been advised at least ten days in advance of this restriction and that at the conference a committee was selected to meet the Hotel management on the problem of discrimination on the part of the Negroes. [redacted] stated that LOUISE THOMPSON was appointed a member of this committee.

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In the same report Agent [redacted] related that Informant [redacted] reported that LOUISE THOMPSON spoke during the Sunday afternoon session of the conference. "Miss Thompson pointed out that Illinois laws outlawed discrimination against persons in regard to their color and race in seeking hotel accomodations and restaurant service." Agent [redacted] again pointed out in this report that the conference established as the official organ "Your Legislative Reporter." He stated that Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that there was in fact no election, but at the last meeting of the conference all of the nominations were read and all adopted and among the officers elected to issue the publication was LOUISE THOMPSON, who was elected as Treasurer. He stated that LOUISE THOMPSON was from the International Workers Order.

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Chicago file 100-1934, entitled Communist Party in the Detroit Area, contains therein a serial, No. 4, which is a report made by Special Agent [redacted] of the Springfield Office dated May 26, 1941. This report mentions the Peoples Conference for Legislative Action, which was held in Springfield, Illinois, on May 24, 1941, and also refers to the subsequent picketing of the Abraham Lincoln Hotel for the discrimination against Negroes. The report mentions LOUISE THOMPSON as a member of the Committee selected at the conference. A review of the American Peace Mobilization file, Chicago file 61-1498, contains there in a serial, No. 84, which is a report made by Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, California, dated February 15, 1941. This report lists the various members of the American Peace Mobilization and among the members is indicated the name LOUISE THOMPSON.

A later report in the same file, serial 71, was prepared by Special Agent [redacted] at Chicago, on December 23, 1940. This file states that on December 1, 1940, at the Chicago Stadium during an Emergency Peace Mobilization meeting, LOUISE THOMPSON, colored, National Vice-President, International Workers Order, was a speaker in the afternoon session. b7C

In the International Workers Order file, 61-174, Special Agent [redacted] of the Chicago Office in a report dated July 15, 1941, serial 162, advised that Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, stated that at the IWO Office on April 22, 1941, individuals were reporting to LOUISE THOMPSON on the distribution and sale of tickets. After talking about the ticket sale they discussed problems concerning the May Day Convention and a committee meeting which was to precede it. It was suggested that each delegate be given a copy of some leaflets which were received from the National Office. It was also suggested that [redacted] be made [redacted]
[redacted]

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LOUISE THOMPSON advised Informant that she was going to invite [redacted] to a luncheon in honor of [redacted] which was to be held at the Midland Hotel on the following Saturday. In serial 163 of this same file, Agent [redacted] in a report dated July 14, 1941, related that [redacted] observed a meeting on April 18, 1941 of the IWO at which LOUISE THOMPSON was present. It further stated that LOUISE THOMPSON on April 18, 1941, was trying to secure a speaker for the National Croation Meeting that night. She was unable to get the individual she wanted as he was busy, but suggested that certain individuals be present at the meeting.

Serial 167 in the same file is a letter which bears the title "Midwest District Committee, Louise Thompson, President, [redacted] and also the caption "International Workers Order, 176 West Adams Street, Room 1073, Chicago." This letter is dated June 5, 1941, and addressed to members of the International Workers Order and signed by both LOUISE THOMPSON and [redacted]. This letter urged support of the Farm Equipment Workers of America and urged that the members of the IWO take steps to guarantee the passage "Plan For Plenty" HR 4688 by writing congressmen and encouraging neighbors to write to their congressmen.

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The International Workers Order file, 61-174, contains serial 130, which is a report made by Special Agent [redacted] dated January 29, 1941. This report reflects that LOUISE THOMPSON was National Recording Secretary of the IWO for 1938-1940.

Chicago file 100-3609 contains therein a memorandum for the file, serial 19, dated July 15, 1941, by Special Agent [redacted]. This memorandum advises that changes in the Communist Party officials between April 17, 1941, and May 13, 1941, in the Chicago area could be found in Chicago file 100-125-826.

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Chicago file 100-125, entitled Communist Party activities in the Chicago, Illinois Area, contains the serial 825, which is a report which was made by Special Agent [redacted] dated June 9, 1941. This report advises that Confidential Informant [redacted] reported on the activities of the Midwest District Convention of the International Workers Order held at the Midland Hotel. He stated that the first speaker was LOUISE THOMPSON and that the first five speakers urged cooperation and unity in fighting for their ideals and purposes and in aiding to defeat the "imperialist forces" which were responsible for the war.

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A further review was made of the files and it was reflected that Confidential Informant [redacted] furnished information that LOUISE THOMPSON was a member of the International Labor Defense and that the source of this information was the Daily Worker dated August 4, 1933. It was also reflected that Subject was a director of education and culture of the National Council of the League for the Struggle for the Negro Race, and was elected at a meeting held at Harlem, New York, October 29, 1933. He stated that she was arrested as a Negro organizer for the ILD and that the source of this information was the Daily Worker dated May 19, 1934, but that the charges were dropped and she was released according to the Daily Worker dated May 30, 1934.

He advised that the Subject was a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, according to the Daily Worker dated August 11, 1937, and the National Secretary of the English Section of the IWO, according to the Daily Worker dated November 20, 1939. Subject was elected a Vice-President of the IWO, according to the Daily Worker dated June 30, 1940, and married W. L. PATTERSON, according to the Daily Worker dated December 29, 1940. He concluded by stating that she was the Midwest District President of the IWO and speaker at a meeting of the same at the Midland Hotel on April 25, 1941, and also attended a meeting at the Communist Party Headquarters on June 13, 1941, and August 2, 1941.

The files of Confidential Informant [] were reviewed for possible additional information concerning Subject. These files contained a series of circulars and pamphlets which are associated with the name of LOUISE THOMPSON. Among the miscellaneous papers in the file are throw-away circulars announcing a mass meeting entitled "I Saw Spain" and listing LOUISE THOMPSON as a speaker. The dates of these meetings were November 5, 1937, St. George Hall, 1513 Quarry Avenue N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, and November 2, 1937, 188 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois.

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There was also a handbill contained in the files entitled "In Defense Of Our Liberties" which announced that LOUISE THOMPSON, a national leader of the International Workers Order and member of the General Executive Board, would speak on "Civil Liberties in the IWO" on November 24, 1939 in the Peoples Auditorium, 2457 West Chicago Avenue. In addition there is a clipping from the Mother Bloor 75th Birthday Souvenir dated July, 1937, which clipping is a greeting from LOUISE THOMPSON to Mother BLOOR in the name of "the women members of the IWO who are happy to honor her on this occasion of her 75th birthday."

Confidential Informant [] files reflected that Subject is a member of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners 156 5th Avenue, New York in July, 1938, and a sponsor of the League for Women Shoppers, Inc., in March 1938. She was also a member of a group which visited Soviet Russia in 1939. The source of this information is a report released by Confidential Informant [] dated August 6, 1932.

1932

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Confidential Informant [redacted] also reported Subject as a member of the National Advisory Board of the International Labor Defense; speaker at the convention at Youngstown, Ohio, November 23, 1937; speaker at that meeting where she spoke on behalf of the Loyalist Interests in the Spanish War; as a member of the National Committee for Peoples Rights, December, 1938; as a member of the Sponsoring Committee of the Scottsboro Defense, 112 East 19th Street, October, 1937.

[redacted] of Hills Reports Inc., 209 West Jackson Boulevard, advised that they have no record on the Subject.

[redacted] of the Calumet Credit Exchange, 209 West Jackson Boulevard, advised that they had no credit rating on the Subject.

[redacted] of the Chicago Police Department advised that there was no criminal record in the name of the Subject.

b7C

A description of LOUISE THOMPSON is as follows:

Age	40 years
Weight	130 lbs.
Race	Negro
Color	Ginger
Height	5-4
Appearance	Good looking

Many pictures have been taken of the Subject participating in the May Day Parade dated May 1, 1941. These pictures are being retained in the Chicago Office for record purposes.

Subject is being listed for custodial detention.

CLOSED

Confidential Informant



b2

b7C

b7D

*John Larson, son
Chicago Ill
10-24-41*

CUSTODIAL DETENTION MEMORANDUM

✓ M
MRS. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, with aliases: Mrs. Louise Patterson,
Mrs. Louise Thuman, Louise Thompson,
nee Louise Toll

Vincennes Hotel
Chicago, Illinois 10-6-41

Communist

Citizenship status - Born at Chicago, Illinois, 9/1/01.
(Information from Marriage License Bureau,
Chicago, Illinois).

Member of Central Committee of Communist Party of America.
(Confidential Informant Chicago, 100-125-121). b2

b2

b7D

National Vice-President of the International Workers Order.
 Chicago Police Department, 100-1984-71). b7C

Participated in May Day Demonstration, 5/1/41 (Picture on file showing participation, 100-4092-3)

b2 Member of National Advisory Board of International Labor Defense.
b7D (Confidential Informant 100-4092-3). b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/03 BY 39063 e2w/jkl

- 7 -

100-407934-3

100-39-9

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 28 1941	

1800
April 17, 1942

ial Agent in Charge
New York, New York

R: LOUISE THOMPSON, with aliases;
Laura Stark; Mrs. Louise
Patterson; Mrs. Louise Thuman;
Louise Toll
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are copies of a list of individuals received from an unknown outside source dated at New York, New York, February 1, 1941. This source indicates that Louise Thompson, a vice president of the International Workers Order, one of the leading Communist setups in America, was present at a secret meeting of "Red" leaders which was raided, at which time Louise Thompson left a small bag filled with various material relative to the Communist Party, among which was a list of names, apparently the personal property of Louise Thompson. It might be mentioned that Louise Thompson is a negress and that the International Workers Order is one of the wealthiest Communist setups in the country, as they have a financial reserve of almost two million dollars. It is stated that Louise Thompson is a well educated negress, has acted as organizer for the Communist Party in many sections of the United States, and spent several months in England and almost a year in Russia. It is stated that it is not known what the attached list represents; that there are many names of individuals on it who are prominent in this country and who have visited other countries during the past few years.

ENB

This list is being furnished you for your information and any action you may deem necessary.

100-407934-4

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NICATIONS SECTION

A I L E D 7

Denver

R 100-1842n&M.

Houston

Jackson

ART 100-1842n&M.

LITTLE ROCK

Memphis

WILM

Newark

New Orleans

Phoenix

Richmond

Savannah

San Antonio

San Francisco

Sioux Falls

Springfield

St. Louis

St. Paul

Washington Field

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/00 BY SP4363 GJW

February 17, 1941

M E M O R A N D U M

Re: Louise Thompson

the novel 41
238

Information from an unknown outside source dated at New York, New York, February 1, 1941, indicates that Louise Thompson, a vice president of the International Workers Order, one of the leading Communist setups in America, was present at a secret meeting of "Red" leaders which was raided, at which time Louise Thompson left a small handbag filled with various material relative to the Communist Party, among which was a list of names, apparently the personal property of Louise Thompson. It might be mentioned that Louise Thompson is a negress and that the International Workers Order is one of the wealthiest Communist setups in the country, as they have a financial reserve of almost two million dollars. It is stated that Louise Thompson is a well educated negress, has acted as organizer for the Communist Party in many sections of the United States, and spent several months in England and almost a year in Russia. It is stated that it is not known what the following list represents; that there are many names of individuals on it who are prominent in this country and who have visited other countries during the past few years. | The following is a copy of the list:

Attached

37063 ETW/MR

Grace Lumpkin
639 E. 11th St.
New York City

[redacted]
New York City, N. Y.

Delcombre, La.

b7C

[redacted]
c/o International Publishers Freeman, Va.
- 4 Ave., New York City

[redacted]

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.

Austin, Tex.

Dalark, Ark.

Jacksonville, Fla.

2/14/41

MEMORANDUM

- 5 -

[redacted]
Chicago, Ill.

[redacted]
Miami, Fla.

[redacted]
New York City

[redacted]
Enough, Mo.

[redacted]
W. Palm Beach, Fla.

[redacted]
New York City

[redacted]
Oxford, Miss.

[redacted]
Gaston, N. C.

[redacted]
Breckenridge, Tex.

[redacted]
West Palm Beach, Fla.

[redacted]
York, Ala.

[redacted]
Centerville, Ala.

[redacted]
Niagara Falls, N.Y.

[redacted]
New York City

[redacted]
N. Y. City

[redacted]
Croton-on-Hudson
New York

[redacted] - Card
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

[redacted]
New York City

Harry I. Cohen
P. O. Box 2823
Denver, Colo.

[redacted]
Blytheville, Ark.

[redacted]
Meridian, Miss.

[redacted]
Atlanta, Ga.

[redacted] - Card
Norton, Va.

[redacted]
Dallas, Tex.

[redacted]
Kilmichael, Miss.

[redacted]
Oviedo, Fla.

[redacted]
Provincial, La.

b7C

[redacted]
Brooklyn, N.Y.

b7C

b7C

HEW:MCM

100-407934-5

100-59-44

REC-100000

Date: January 4, 1943

To: SAC, Chicago

RE: INTERNAL SECURITY - C
MURKIN, WALTER
DRAFT 10/2/40 REC'D 3/10/43 Chicago

MB

From: J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: LOUISE THOMPSON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Mr. Tolson

Mr. E. A. Tamm There are being transmitted herewith copies of a report dated November 16,
Mr. Clegg 1942, received by the Bureau from the Military Intelligence Service.

Mr. Clegg

Mr. E. A. Tamm Louise Thompson is the subject of your File No. 100-4092. Inasmuch as
Mr. Nichols is an active member of the Communist Party, you are instructed to reopen this
Mr. Ross case and bring the investigation of the subject up-to-date.

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Coffey Enclosure

Mr. Coffey

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Mohr

Mr. Quinn

Mr. Quinn

Miss Gandy

345

(AM)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK CITY

NY

FILE NO. 100-15,113 ERL:K

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 12-4-41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/17/18, 22; 11/21/41	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted]
TITLE LOUISE THOMPSON alias Laura Starke	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C		

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject born in Chicago, Illinois; attended University of California at Berkeley and was instructor at State College, Pine Bluff, Ark. Subject presently V. President of I.W.O. and known to be active in work of CP.

-P-

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to all field offices dated 11/30/41 re Internal Security.

b7C

DETAILS:

This investigation is predicated upon a review of the files of the New York Office by Special Agent [Redacted]

The Daily Worker for June 30, 1940 reports that subject was born in Chicago, Illinois, received a B.S. Degree from the University of California at Berkeley, California, and taught at the State College, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

The Daily Worker for June 22, 1937 referred to LOUISE THOMPSON as head of the English Section of the International Workers Order.

COPIES DESTROYED

3 11 AUG 22 1963

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: P. E. Forward cc: [Signature]	FINAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-407934-6 100-3914X DEC 8 1941 INDEXED RJ SOPA
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 1--Bureau DEC 18 8 R2 WH.41 2--Little Rock 2--San Francisco 2--Birmingham 2--New York		RECORDED INDEXED RJ SOPA

The Daily Worker for June 28, 1940 referred to LOUISE THOMPSON as newly elected Vice-President of the International Workers Order.

Confidential Source of Information [] advised as follows:

" LOUISE THOMPSON, colored, no known address; affiliated with the International Workers Order; was speaker at the meeting of the League Against War and Fascism; connected with National Negro Congress; was a signer of protest against the arrest and brutal torture of Huang Ping, Chinese working class leader, by Marshal Chang Hsiao Liang-Peiping; was a speaker at the 7th annual Colored American Day Celebration at Jeannette, Pennsylvania on July 14, 1937. LOUISE THOMPSON is also known as LAURA STARKE; photograph at this office. Mother of [] lives at []

[] Baltimore, Maryland. Louise Thompson is National Propaganda Director of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights; has a police record in Birmingham, Alabama; associate editor of the "Harlem Liberator;" member of the editorial board of "New Pioneer" a magazine run by Communists; writer of an article entitled "And So We Marched" in the June, 1933 issue of the Working Woman, magazine published monthly by the Central Committee of the Communist Party. "

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Confidential Source of information [] advised that although the subject was listed in the telephone directory, that the number listed for her name actually is a semi-public coin type telephone and is maintained and paid for by the rental agents of the building at 409 Edgecomb Avenue, New York City.

[] for the apartment at 409 Edgecomb Avenue, and whose office is located at 2095 Broadway, advised that insofar as her records disclose, there was no tenant by the name of LOUISE THOMPSON in the apartment house at 409 Edgecomb Avenue. [] further contacted the [] at the apartment house at 409 Edgecomb Avenue in an attempt to determine if there was a person by the name of LOUISE THOMPSON rooming there. The [] advised negatively.

Special Agent [] reported that the subject has no known criminal record with the New York Police Department.

[] stated that subject has no credit rating with the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, 393 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

100-15,113

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

At Berkeley, California, will contact the registrar of the University of California and attempt to obtain the date and place of birth of LOUISE THOMPSON, alias LAURA STARKE, and also to obtain any other information available.

LITTLE ROCK FIELD DIVISION

At Pine Bluff, Arkansas, will interview the appropriate official at State College, Pine Bluff, and attempt to obtain the date and place of birth of subject and also any background information available.

BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION

At Birmingham, Alabama, will contact the appropriate official of the Birmingham Police Department for the facts contained in the criminal record of subject there.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City, will attempt to obtain further background information and activities of the subject as they are connected with the work of the Communist Party.

- P E N D I N G -

100-15,113

Confidential Source of Information [redacted] is the [redacted]
[redacted] (Copy of letter retained
in New York File 100-15,113).

Confidential Source of Information [redacted] is [redacted]
[redacted]

b2
b7C
b7D

LOUISE THOMPSON, wa

LR 100-668

[redacted]
who was an alumnus of the Agricultural, Mechanical, and Normal College informed that she was acquainted with subject and subject's mother when they lived in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and as best she could recall they lived there just one school year, which was 1926 and 1927. She said she was unable to give any detailed information concerning either subject or her mother, but she remembered them because [redacted] for the refugee children in the Pine Bluff flood in 1927. She said she never heard from subject after she left Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and she did not recall where subject came from when coming to Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

b7C

AT LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

[redacted] State Educational Department of Arkansas, advised that their Department maintained no records concerning any of the faculties in any of the colleges or State Advanced Educational Schools in the state of Arkansas.

Inasmuch as there is no further investigation to be conducted by this office, this case is being referred to the Office of Origin.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-7141

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/28/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 179742	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	GH
TITLE LOUISE THOMPSON alias Laura STARKE	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C			
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON born Chicago, Illinois 9/9/01 entered University of California, Berkeley, Cal. in August 1919 and received B.S. Degree May 16, 1923. By letter dated 10/30/28 the New York School of Social Work, N.Y. City requested of the University of California the transcript of LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON, 90 Edgecombe Avenue, New York City.</p> <p>R.U.C.</p> <p>REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated New York City 12/4/41.</p> <p>DETAILS: AT BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA.</p> <p>The University of California researched the files of the University of California for records of LOUISE THOMPSON. He stated that the only LOUISE THOMPSON who had attended the University other than one current student was a LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON, who was born in Chicago 9/9/01. [REDACTED] produced the application of admission of LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON, dated 8/11/19 which gave as her address 552 39th Street, Oakland, Cal. The application gave the father of LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON as JOHN A. THOMPSON, occupation cook and birthplace Nashville, Tenn. Her mother's name before marriage was FRANCES LOUISE BROWN, who was born in Springfield, Ohio. The application further stated that LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON was born in Chicago on 9/9/01 and graduated from Oakland High School, Oakland, Cal. in June 1919.</p> <p>APPROVED AND FORWARDED: M. J. Tepesky, R.C.</p> <p>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</p> <p>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</p> <p>100-407934-8</p> <p>144-39-1442</p> <p>EX-1</p> <p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT COPIES DESTROYED</p> <p>1 AUG 22 1963</p> <p>1-Bureau 3-New York MAR 25 1942</p> <p>2-San Francisco</p> <p>COPY IN FILE</p>				

[redacted] produced the under graduate card of LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON, which also showed she entered the University of California in August 1919 and received a B.S. Degree May 6, 1923 with honors in commerce. The under graduate record card further showed that LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta, stated by [redacted] to be a negro sorority, Also in the files of the University was a letter dated 10/30/28 signed by [redacted] on stationery of the New York School of Social Work, 105 E. 22nd Street New York City.

This letter requested of the University of California a transcript of the records of LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON, 90 Edgecombe Avenue, New York City who was applying for admission to the school of social work.

b7C

[redacted] telephonically contacted the office of the Alumni Association where he was informed that the files of the Association lists LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON as "lost" and that the Alumni Association had no record of her since graduation.

In view of the fact that it is not known whether LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON and the subject are one and the same the title of this case is not being changed to set out this additional name.

A lead is being set out for the New York Field Division to determine whether the subject and LOUISE ALONE THOMPSON are one and the same.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION will review the facts contained in this report and the facts contained in reports in the files of the New York Field Division to determine whether LUCILLE ALONE THOMPSON and the subject of this case are one and the same.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-1287 VM

REPORT MADE AT BIRMINGHAM, ALA.	DATE WHEN MADE 3-10-42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-13-42	REPORT MADE BY <input type="text"/>
TITLE LOUISE THOMPSON alias Laura Starks		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: **Criminal record of Birmingham, Ala., set out.**

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent New York City, 12-4-41.

DETAILS: *350357*
In response to a request for the above subject's criminal record, from the Birmingham Police Department on January 2, a reply was received on January 8, enclosing photographs of this individual and containing the following information:

b7C

"LAURA STARKS, white female, record of 5-9-34 charge 4902 Communist; 5-21-34 discharged Judge Abernathy's Court. LAURA STARKS at that time refused to give an address. According to the record on this subject, she was twenty-two in 1934, 5'1" tall, weight 115 pounds, medium build, black hair, dark brown eyes, dark complexion, mustache, smooth and good teeth; born in Nassau, New Hampshire; occupation, office worker; mother's name, VERA STARK, 523 Church Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

"The records further reveal that this subject was connected, during 1934, with the Communist Party Organization here in Birmingham and was very active. However, she has not come under my surveillance since that time.
211 AUG 22 1963

"I am enclosing, herewith, for your permanent files, picture of this subject, our Bureau No. 26571."

18 S 3864-45
Copies of the photograph were made, three of which are being enclosed for the office of origin.

COPIES AND INDEXED: <i>SEARCHED</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT UP TO 12/21/62		<i>100-39-NYX5</i> <i>100-407934-9</i>
5 Bureau 2 New York 2 Birmingham		
<i>822</i>		
<i>RECORDED</i>		

It will be noted that reference report reflects that subject is a member of the colored race, whereas there is no indication in the records of Birmingham to indicate that she other than white.

ENCLOSURES: TO NEW YORK, three photographs of subject.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Boston, Massachusetts

February 23, 1943

ppf
dmu
mlw
Director, FBI

Re: LOUISE THOMSON, with aliases;
Laura Starkes, Mrs. Louise Patterson;
Mrs. Louise Thuman; Louise Tell.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Inasmuch as a Bureau letter in regard to the above captioned matter, dated April 17, 1942 (100-39) set out a lead to cover one [redacted]
[redacted] Oxford, Mass., and one [redacted]

b7C

Oxford, Mass., and investigation reveals that there are no such persons in Oxford, Mass., nor are there any such addresses possible in that town, this letter is written for the express purpose of suggesting that these persons may be located in Oxford, Mississippi.

A review of the letter mentioned above shows that several addresses are listed in Oxford, Miss., and it is therefore assumed that the leads set out for Oxford, Mass., are the result of typographical errors. A copy of the Bureau letter in question is attached to copy of this letter for the Jackson, Mississippi office.

Very truly yours,

John T. Madigan
JOHN T. MADIGAN
SAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/00 BY 3943 EW/JW/LHM

WJW LHM

100-3188

cc Jackson Division w/encl.



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269 11 AUG 23 1963

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100-39-15

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
BOSTON OFFICE	

1943
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BOSTON OFFICE
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PA
AKM/M

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
700 Tower Building
Jackson, Mississippi
March 5, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: LOUISE THOMPSON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter from Boston to the Bureau dated February 23, 1943 (Bureau file 100-39) advising that certain names in a list previously furnished to a number of Field Divisions with Bureau letter dated April 17, 1942 apparently were individuals in Oxford, Mississippi instead of Oxford, Massachusetts.

For the information of the Bureau, all of the individuals on the list furnished by Bureau letter of April 17, 1942 who resided in Mississippi, including [redacted] and [redacted] were identified by the Jackson Field Office and where investigation showed their investigation warranted special attention, separate cases were opened on each individual.

b7C

Very truly yours,

R. J. Untreiner
R. J. UNTREINER *AT*
SAC

CC: Boston
RGG: jc
100-806

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/22/00 BY [redacted]

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211 AUG 23 1963

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58 MAR 16 1943

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EX-2

MAR 9 1943

PAGE

100-407934-11 *too*
100-39 *16*

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

40991

MET:HAF

April 7, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: LOUISE THOMPSON
(Negro)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

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b7D

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of Confidential Informant [redacted] dated March 30, 1943, setting out background information concerning the captioned individual.

Inasmuch as the subject is reported to be presently residing in Chicago, Illinois, a copy of the Informant's report is being sent to the Chicago Field Division. Copies are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY
E. E. CONROY
SAC

Enclosures 2
cc Chicago (Enclosure)
cc NY 65-10519

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-407934-9/12
100-39-18

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100-407934-9/12
100-39-18
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21 AUG 23 1943
C.I.F.
53 APR 21 1943

March 30th, 43.

Louise Thompson (Negro)

40992

I met Louise Thompson during the Scottsboro Campaign. She was going to Washington D.C. with [redacted] (girl in the Scottsboro Case) [redacted] mother of one of the Scottsboro Boys and a large delegation consisting mostly of Communists. That was during the Summer of 1933.

[redacted] former member of the National Committee, member of the Political Bureau that Louise Thompson had been in Russia with a group of Negro actors that were supposed to make a propaganda film. The project fell through and caused considerable bitterness in Negro circles. The Negro papers at the time severely criticized the Russian Government for abandoning the project.

Louise Thompson has been also very active in the National Negro Congress. She participated in the formulation of the plans for organizing it; and contributed to the hammering out of policy for the N.N.C.

b7C
b7D

She is a member of the Negro Commission of the National Committee of the Party.

[redacted] numerous meetings of the National Committee. She was a member of the Upper Harlem Section of the C.P.

She is Vice President of the International Workers Order(National Official). She also worked as a National Woman Organizer for the I.W.O. It was from the latter job that she received a salary.

At the present time she is in Chicago, Ill. Actively working among Negroes in Chicago's Southside.

Her husband is William L. Patterson, Communist.

Description:

Height about 5 feet 5 inches. Weight about 138. Light brown complexion. Very good agitator and organizer.

b2

b7D

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211 AUG 23 1963

100-407934-12

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FILE NO. 100-4092

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 5/8/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/17; 5/3/43	REPORT MADE BY RJS:LR
TITLE LOUISE THOMPSON, was		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C CUSTODIAL DETENTION	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <i>Rec'd by H.A.K.</i> Subject reported to continue activities in Communist Party International Workers Order in Chicago and vicinity. Resides Vincennes Hotel, 601 East 36th Street with husband WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, reported Communist; presently recuperating from birth of daughter in March, 1943. <i>-P-</i>			
REFERENCE: <i>Rec'd by H.A.K.</i> Bureau letter dated 2/4/43, Bureau files 100-39 and 100-166168; report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 9/24/41 at Chicago, Illinois; letter from Bureau dated April 17, 1942.			
DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS			
<p>On September 9, 1941, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that subject was a member of a group examining and approving applications for memberships in the Communist Party in the Mid-West. A copy of the schedule of instructors at the Chicago Workers School for the fall term, October 6 to December 20, 1941, lists LOUISE THOMPSON as instructor in "Fundamental Principles of Communism."</p> <p>Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that on or about February 1, 1941, subject was in possession of a list of names, which included the following persons in the Chicago area:</p> <p>[redacted]</p> <p><i>Rec'd by H.A.K.</i></p> <p>Urbana, Illinois</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>DeLoach</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>F.A.T.</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <i>(X) 139-19 100-407934-13</i>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <i>One</i> (5-Bureau 1-ONI, Chicago 1-MID, CHICAGO 2-Chicago		RECORDED <i>X</i>	INDEXED <i>X</i>

b7C

b2
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[redacted]

b7C

Champaign, Ill.

[redacted]

Chicago, Illinois

On or about May 22, 1942, Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that MORRIS CHILDS was in possession of a memorandum indicating that LOUISE THOMPSON of the South Side Section of the Communist Party expected to obtain one Communist Party recruit by May 1, 1942, and five Daily Worker subscribers by the same day.

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On November 16, 1942, Confidential Informant [redacted] reported [redacted]

[redacted]
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The indices of the Chicago Field Office were checked for the name of [redacted] with negative results.

Referral/Direct

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reports that the Peoples' World, 5/14/42, carried an article to the effect that the subject is a member of the National Committee of International Labor Defense. Informant also reports that subject was elected to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States of America at the Tenth National Convention, 8/26/38, New York City.

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On March 14, 1942, Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported subject's attending a Communist Party meeting held at 1016 North Dearborn Street, Chicago (Chicago File 100-125-2010, pages 25 and 26).

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Bureau Informant [redacted] recently reported that [redacted] of Communist Party headquarters indicated that the IWO Committee composed of LOUISE THOMPSON, [redacted] and [redacted] were leading the Communist Party recruiting drive (100-125-3087).

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Chicago File 100-4092

On February 3, 1943, Bureau Informant [] advised that LOUISE THOMPSON is active in the IWO effort to infiltrate the Mazzini Society.

On May 20, 1942, Bureau Informant [] reported that subject was present at a conference of Workers School Board members held on that day (61-147-119).

This same informant on May 13, 1942, indicated that the subject is active in the Young Communist League (100-125-2198).

Discreet inquiries at the Vincennes Hotel, 601 East 36th Street, Chicago, Illinois, reflects that subject is still living there with her husband, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, who is reported to be prominent in Communist circles, Chicago, and who is presently assistant director of the Abraham Lincoln School.

Confidential Informant [] and [], whose identity is known to the Bureau, report that as of May 4, 1943, subject is living at the above mentioned address where she is convalescing from the birth of a daughter during the latter part of March, 1943. This informant reports that she has been absent from the Chicago Office of the International Workers Order since the latter part of January 1943 in expectation of the birth of a child. However, these informants report that she continues to be active and influential in the work of the IWO and that [] and [] of the International Workers Office keep in regular contact with her.

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- P E N D I N G -

Chicago File 100-4092

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois

Will continue to follow and report subject's activity and relations with the Communist Party.

Chicago File 100-4092

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

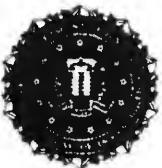
Ninth Naval District, ONI [] rated []

Bureau letter dated April 17, 1942 (Bureau File 100-39), indicating that the list of names mentioned had been found in a purse apparently owned by LOUISE THOMPSON by an unknown subject.

Report of Special Agent [] dated at Chicago, Illinois, May 22, 1942, Chicago File No. 102-4, which sets out that Confidential Informants [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that recruiting data was found among the personal effects of MORRIS CHILDS.

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Referral/Direct



Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM:BK
Call: 10:15 A.M.
Transcribed: 10:50 A.M.

May 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON
601 East 36th Street, Apt. 308,
Chicago, Illinois;
Telephone-Drexel 7768

While talking with ASAC Hosteny, Chicago, regarding other matters, he requested that consideration be given to the installation of a technical surveillance on the above individual. It is stated that she is the wife of William L. Patterson who is one of the leaders in the Communist Party movement in that area. The telephone is listed in her name. Both subject and her husband are negroes.

She is presently District Secretary of the International Workers Order. She and her husband are nationally known members of the Communist Party and are active in all its functions. He is reportedly quite influential with the Chicago Defender, a negro publication. She has served as a member of the Executive Board and as an instructor in the Chicago Workers School. She has been interested in labor activities. Through technicals presently in effect it has been learned that she transacts considerable business at her home.

I told Mr. Hosteny that his request will be presented and he will be advised.

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/1/02 BY 2000-2E/HB



100-407934-14
100-39-27

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20 JUN 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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FILE NO. 100-4092

REPORT MADE AT Chicago, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE 5/29/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/17/43	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted] RJS/jb
TITLE MRS. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, with aliases Mrs. Louise Patterson, Mrs. Louise Thurman, Louise Thompson, nee Louise Tolls		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C CUSTODIAL DETENTION	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/23/43 BY [Signature]	SUMMARY REPORT Subject born 9/9/01 at Chicago, Illinois. Resides at Vincennes Hotel, 601 East 36th Street, Chicago, Illinois, telephone number - Drexel 7768, with husband, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON. Both reported to be prominent in Communist Party. Subject member Central Committee, Communist Party, and District Committee, Communist Party, District No. 8, and president, Midwest District, I.W.O. Has been active in such movements and organizations as American Peace Mobilization, Committee for Peoples Rights, Committee for Defense of Political Prisoners, Illinois Peoples Conference for Legislative Action, International Labor Defense, Midwest Federation for Constitutional Liberties, League for Struggle for Negro Race Scottsboro Defense, Chicago Workers School.		
- P -			
DETAILS: COPIES DESTROYED	I. ADDRESS AND OCCUPATION		
311 AUG 22 1963 Home address: Vincennes Hotel, 601 East 36th Street, Chicago, Illinois. Telephone Number: Drexel 7768. Occupation: Midwest Director, I.W.O. Business address: Second floor, 316 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Business telephone number: Randolph 0543, Randolph 0545, Randolph 0546.			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	RECORDED & INDEXED		
1 - New York (Information) 1 - Springfield (Information) 1 - O.N.I., Chicago 1 - M.I.D., Chicago 2 - Chicago	RECEIVED TECHNICAL DIVISION JUN 10 1943 6/23/43		

CHICAGO FILE #100-4092

II. CITIZENSHIP STATUS

Since subject was born in the United States, she is a citizen of this country.

III. CRIMINAL RECORD

According to the "Daily Worker" of May 19, 1934, subject was arrested in New York on or about that date in connection with her activities in behalf of the International Labor Defense among the negro people. According to the "Daily Worker" of May 30, 1934, charges were dropped and she was released.

Referral/Direct

IV. CONNECTION WITH ARMED SERVICES

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Investigation has failed to reveal that subject has any relatives in the armed services. However, on November 16, 1942 confidential informant [redacted] reported [redacted]

[redacted]

Informants of this office, including confidential informants [redacted] and [redacted] advise that the International Workers Order in the Midwest District have made definite efforts in the past to obtain contacts with individuals in the armed services. As before stated, subject is President of the Midwest District of the I.W.O.

V. LOYALTY TO UNITED STATES

Information from which conclusions as to subject's loyalty to the United States may be drawn is hereafter set out in this report.

VI. BACKGROUND

On 12/3/40 WILLIAM L. PATTERSON executed marriage affidavit certificate number 1652548, now on file with the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Chicago,

CHICAGO FILE #100-4092

in connection with his application for a license to marry Mrs. LOUISE THURMAN. In this affidavit he stated that she was a widow, born 9/9/01.

On 9/3/41 WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, in the course of a telephone conversation with Special Agent [redacted] made under a pretext, advised that he had married Mrs. LOUISE THURMAN; that she was born in Chicago, Illinois, and that her maiden name was LOUISE TOLLS; that her stepfather's name was THOMPSON and that she therefore adopted the name, LOUISE THOMPSON.

On 6/3/39 confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that she was at one time a teacher for the Y.W.C.A. in New York City.

On March 30, 1943, confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that he had been told by [redacted] former member of the National Committee, member of the Political Bureau, that LOUISE THOMPSON had been in Russia with a group of negro actors that were supposed to have made a propaganda film. The project fell through and caused considerable bitterness in negro circles. The negro papers at the time severely criticized the Russian government for abandoning the project.

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Confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advises that subject was a member of the group that visited Soviet Russia in 1939. It is probable that the trip to Russia mentioned by this informant is the same as that mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that on May 21, 1941 an individual named [redacted] told [redacted] of the International Labor Defense for the State of Illinois, that [redacted] worked together with LOUISE THOMPSON in the same organization in Mexico in [redacted]. In this connection it is interesting to note that confidential informants [redacted] and [redacted] report that LOUISE THOMPSON, in her capacity as Midwest Director of the I.W.O., has been active in raising funds to rescue individuals in France opposed to Fascism and that Mexican visas were obtained for these individuals.

A physical description of subject is as follows:

Age:	42 years
Weight:	130 lbs.
Race:	Negro
Color:	Ginger
Height:	5'4"
Appearance:	Good looking

CHICAGO FILE #100-4092

In the latter part of March, 1943, a daughter was born to subject and her husband, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, in Chicago, Illinois. However, subject, at the time this report is being written, is again engaged in her activities at the headquarters of the I. W. O.

VII. MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES IN VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

A. INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER--Confidential informants [] and [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, report that subject is president of the Midwest District of the I. W. O. On March 30, 1943, confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported subject as National Vice-President of the International Workers Order and stated that she had worked as a national woman organizer for the I. W. O. Confidential informant [] reported that as of November 24, 1939, subject was a member of the general executive board of the I. W. O. Confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advises that in 1940 subject was National Secretary of the I. W. O. According to the "Daily Worker", dated November 20, 1939, subject was then the National Secretary of the English Section of the I. W. O. She was elected Vice-President of the I. W. O. according to the "Daily Worker" dated June 30, 1940.

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B. COMMUNIST PARTY--On 6/3/39 confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that subject was a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. According to the "Daily Worker" of August 11, 1937, subject was then a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reports that subject was elected to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States of America at the Tenth National Convention held August 26, 1938, in New York City. According to confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, subject came to the Chicago Communist Party Headquarters on June 12, 1941 and turned over to [] of the Communist Party, an important list of 201 new members of the International Workers Order enrolled since May 15, 1941.

On March 14, 1942, confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported subject attended a Communist Party meeting held at 1016 North Dearborn Street, Chicago.

On September 9, 1941, confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that subject was a member of a group examining and approving applications for membership in the Communist Party in the Midwest. On 3/9/43 Bureau informant [] advised that subject attended a rally of Communist Party leaders held at the Viking North Side Temple, 3257 North Sheffield Avenue. The meeting was called because of the decision of political party leaders to withdraw their candidates for mayor, city clerk and treasurer in the coming election. In this report the informant stated that subject was a member of the District Committee of the Communist Party, no doubt referring to District Number 8.

On 1/3/42 Bureau informant [] advised that subject attended a Communist Party meeting on the previous Friday night called for the purpose of outlining plans for sending delegates to the City Hall on the following Tuesday where a joint trade union conference on war problems was to be held under the auspices of the Chicago Civilian Defense office. Confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reports that on 6/19/41 subject attended a meeting of Communist Party leaders at 207, 231 South Wells Street, Chicago, Illinois. Confidential informant [] reports that subject attended a meeting of the Lincoln Park District Branch of the Party held at Forester's Hall, 1016 North Dearborn Street.

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Subject has been active in the recent recruiting drive conducted by the Communist Party. On 3/10/43 confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that [] for the Communist Party, had reported that the International Workers Order Committee composed of LOUISE THOMPSON, [] and [] was leading in the recruiting drive.

In this connection it is noted that on or about May 22, 1942, confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that MORRIS CHILDS was in possession of a memorandum indicating that LOUISE THOMPSON of the South Side Section of the Communist Party expected to obtain one Communist Party recruit by May 11, 1942, and five "Daily Worker" subscribers by the same day.

On May 13, 1942, Bureau informant [] reported that subject was active in the Young Communist League.

On 5/1/41 confidential informants [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that subject spoke in connection with the

May Day Parade held in Chicago on that day, and that during the course of her speech she emphasized recent gains on the part of labor and the fact that the I. W. O. had 14,000 members in the Midwest District. This report relative to her having spoken at the May Day affair was confirmed by confidential informant [redacted] on 5/8/41.

According to confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, subject was on 12/31/42 a member of the Plank Committee which was planning a New Year's Eve Party to be held under the auspices of the Illinois State Committee of the Communist Party at Palais Des Gardes, 5538 Indiana.

- C. AMERICAN PEACE MOBILIZATION--On February 15, 1941, subject was listed as a member of the American Peace Mobilization.
- D. NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLES RIGHTS--Confidential informant [redacted] advises that in December, 1938, subject was a member of the National Committee for People's Rights.
- E. COMMITTEE FOR DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS--Confidential informant [redacted] advises that as of July, 1938, subject was a member of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, 158 Fifth Avenue, New York.
- F. BLOOR FESTIVITIES--Contained in the "Mother Bloor 75th Birthday Souvenir", dated July, 1937, is a greeting from LOUISE THOMPSON to MOTHER BLOOR in the name of the "women members of the I. W. O., who are happy to honor her on this occasion of her seventy-fifth birthday."
- G. ILLINOIS PEOPLES CONFERENCE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION--Subject attended the convention of the Illinois Peoples Conference for Legislative Action held in Springfield, Illinois, May 24, 25, 1941, and was appointed on a committee to confer with the management of the Abraham Lincoln Hotel relative to alleged discrimination against negroes who sought accommodations there during the conference. This information was received from confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.
- H. INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE--Confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reports that in July, 1938, subject was a member of the National Advisory Board of the International Labor Defense.

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Confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advises that subject was a member of the International Labor Defense in 1933, attributing this information to the "Daily Worker" of August 4 of that year. Confidential informant [], whose identity is known to the Bureau, advises that the People's World of 5/14/42 carried an article stating that subject was then a member of the National Committee of the International Labor Defense.

I. F.E.W.O.C. (C.I.O.)--A letter dated June 5, 1941, is in the possession of the Chicago Field office, which bears the letterhead of the Midwest District of the I. W. O. and which is signed by LOUISE THOMPSON and []. This letter is addressed to members of the International Workers Order and urges them to support the Farm Equipment Workers of America.

J. LEAGUE FOR WOMEN SHOPPERS, INCORPORATED--According to confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, the subject was affiliated with the League for Women Shoppers, Incorporated, of New York in 1938.

K. MAZZINI SOCIETY--On February 4, 1943, Bureau informant [] advised that LOUISE THOMPSON was active in the I. W. O. effort to infiltrate the Mazzini Society.

L. MIDWEST FEDERATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES--On 5/7/41 confidential Informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that subject attended a meeting of the Midwest Federation for Constitutional Liberties at their office in Room 1106, 166 West Jackson Boulevard.

M. MOONEY MEETING--On 3/13/42 confidential informants [] and [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that subject sat on the stage during the course of a TOM MOONEY MEMORIAL MEETING held at 188 West Randolph Street in the Blue Sky Ball Room at 8:30 P.M.

N. LEAGUE FOR THE STRUGGLE FOR THE NEGRO RACE AND NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS-- Confidential informant [] reported that subject was a director of education and culture of the National Council of the League for the Struggle for the Negro Race, having been elected at a meeting held at Harlem, New York, October 29, 1933. Confidential informant [] whose identity is known to the Bureau, states in a report dated March 30, 1943, as follows: "LOUISE THOMPSON has been also very active in the National Negro Congress. She participated in the formulation of the plans for organizing it and contributing to the handing out of policies for it in New York." She is a member of the Negro Commission of the National Committee of the Party, according to this informant.

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